

## A new species of *Orexita* SPAETH from Brazil and Bolivia (*Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Cassidinae*)

LECH BOROWIEC and JOLANTA ŚWIĘTOJAŃSKA

Zoological Institute, University of Wrocław, Sienkiewicza 21, 50-335 Wrocław, Poland  
e-mail: cassidae@biol.uni.wroc.pl

**ABSTRACT.** *Orexita minima* n. sp. is described from Prov. Mato Grosso in Brazil and Prov. Sara in Bolivia. It is the smallest species of the genus.

**Key words:** entomology, taxonomy, new species, *Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Cassidinae, Orexita*, Neotropics.

The genus *Orexita* SPAETH, 1911 comprises 21 species (SPAETH 1911, 1914, 1919, 1926, 1928, 1935, BOROWIEC 1992) distributed from Nicaragua to Bolivia. Many species are extremely variable in body colouration. They never been revised but SPAETH (1911) divided the genus into six groups based on general body shape and elytral puncturation. In the materials studied recently we found specimens of a new species. Its description is given below.

### *Orexita minima* n. sp. (figs 1-6)

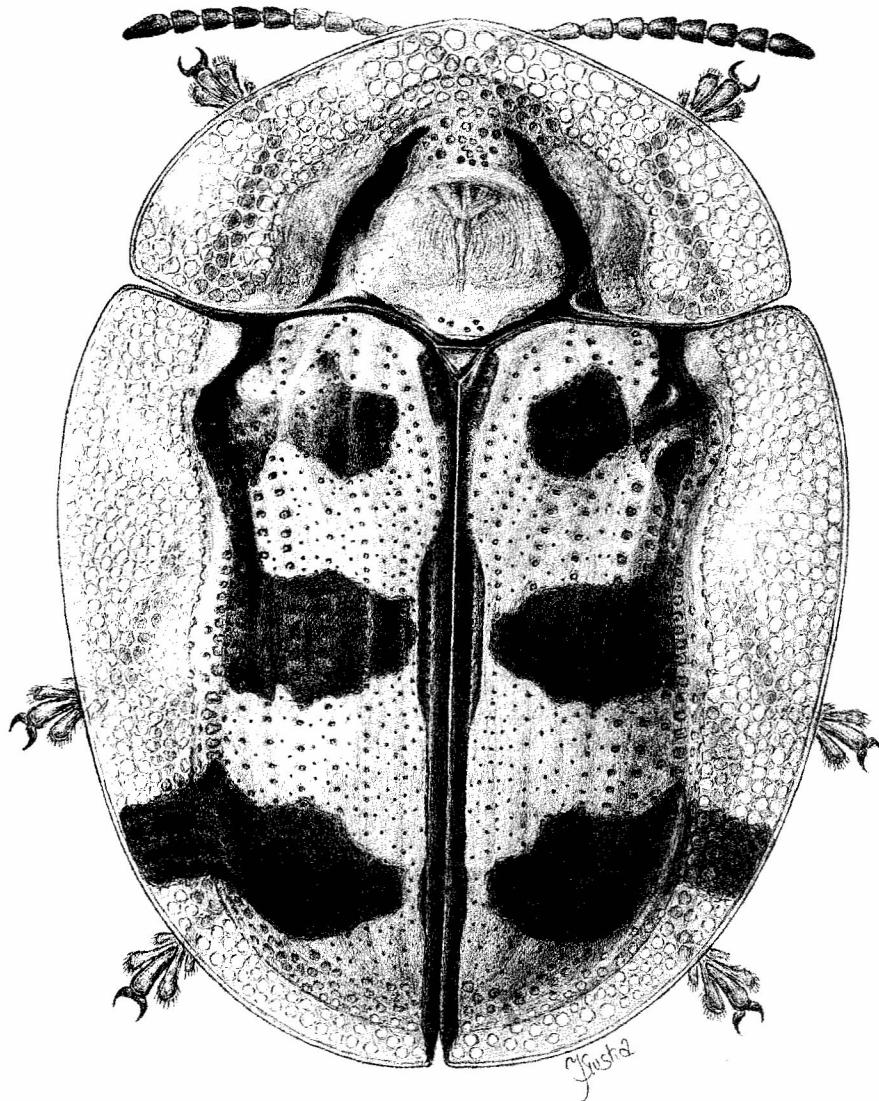
#### ETYMOLOGY

Named after small body size, the smallest in the genus *Orexita* SPAETH.

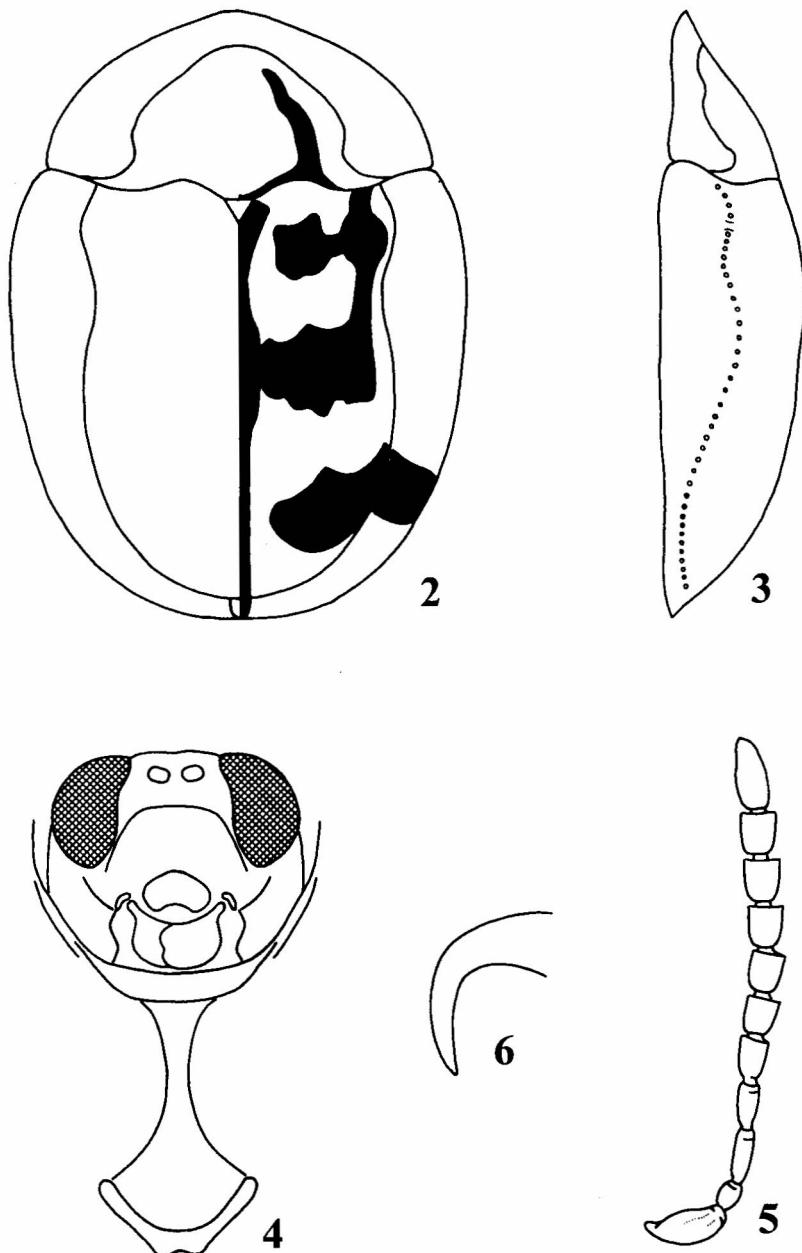
#### DIAGNOSIS

It is a unique species, differs from all the representatives of the genus in its small body size, in males body length not reaching 9.2 mm (above 10.5 mm in other species), in females 11.2 mm (above 11.5 in other species). Depressed body and elytral puncturation place this species close only to *O. complanata* (BOH.) but the latter species differs in larger (length in both sexes above 12.5 mm) and especially

stouter body (length/width ratio in males 1.22-1.24 in females 1.27-1.29 while in *O. minima* in males 1.30-1.39 in females 1.43-1.48).



1. *Orexitia minima* n. sp., habitus



2-7. *Orexita minima*: 2 - body in dorsal view, 3 - body in lateral view, 4 - head, pro- and mesosternum, 5 - antenna, 6 - tarsal claw

#### DESCRIPTION

Length: [male]: 8.5-9.1 mm [female]: 9.8-11.0 mm; width: [male]: 6.1-7.0 mm [female]: 3.1-3.6 mm; length of pronotum: [male]: 2.9-3.2 mm [female]: 3.1-3.6 mm; width of pronotum: [male]: 5.2-5.7 mm [female]: 5.8-6.7 mm; length/width ratio: [male]: 1.30-1.39 [female]: 1.43-1.48; pronotal width/pronotal length ratio: [male]: 1.73-1.83 [female]: 1.82-1.87. Males distinctly smaller and stouter than females.

Both sexes distinctly differ in colour. Male: pronotum yellow with two long, oblique black lines along sides of disc. Scutellum yellow to black with yellow centre. Elytra yellow with black pattern: band along suture, band along each side from humeral callus to the middle of side, round spot in anterior part of disc, the spot sometimes coalescent with lateral band or both lateral and sutural bands, transverse band in the middle, transverse band at apex of disc which is prolonged to explanate margin and forms posterolateral spot (figs 1-2). Ventral side partly brown to black, sides of abdomen and lateral plates of thorax mostly yellow, in the palest specimen only central part of prosternum black, meso and metasternum mostly yellow with infuscate centre and abdomen mostly yellow with brownish centre. Clypeus yellow. Antennae yellow with last 5-6 segments infuscate to black. Legs yellow. Female: Pronotum yellow with two fine blackish oblique lines along sides of disc, they are thinner and shorter than in male, in one of the specimens almost obsolete. Scutellum, elytra, ventrites and legs uniformly yellow. Antennae yellow with 4-5 last segments more or less infuscate.

Body oval, depressed in profile (fig. 3). Pronotum very broad, with maximum width at base, corners angulate. Disc moderately convex, smooth and glabrous with scarce, extremely fine pricks. Explanate margin indistinctly bordered from disc, at sides of disc shallowly impressed, its surface smooth and glabrous. Scutellum triangular, impunctate. Base of elytra in female as wide as in male, only slightly wider than base of pronotum. Puncturation of disc fine to moderate, arranged in almost regular rows, punctures in lateral rows larger than in sutural rows, in anterior part larger than in slope. Punctures in rows dense, distance between punctures 0.5-1.5 times larger than puncture diameters. In some specimens rows slightly impressed. Marginal row distinct, its punctures only slightly larger than in submarginal row. In anterior part of interval 1 and in the middle of interval 3 several additional punctures c. twice smaller than those in rows. Intervals flat, in sutural part of disc three to four on sides twice wider than rows. Marginal interval slightly wider than submarginal. Surface of intervals microreticulate but rather glabrous. Explanate margin broad, moderately declivous, surface punctate, punctures as wide as in marginal rows but sparse, distance between punctures twice to three times wider than puncture diameter (the puncturation is slightly larger than in *O. complanata* but distinctly smaller than in species of groups 5 and 6). Ventrites, head, antennae and legs with no diagnostic characters (figs 4-6).

#### TYPES

Holotype male: "Chapada, Brazil, Acc. No. 2966" "Sept."; paratype male: the same data but "Jan."; paratype male: the same data but "Oct."; paratype male:

"BRAZIL, Mato Grosso, Chapada Plateau, XI 1965, native collector"; allotype female: "BRAZIL, Mato Grosso, Chapada Plateau, XI 1965, native collector"; paratype female: the same data as in allotype; paratype female: "Prov. del Sara, Cent. Bolivia, 450 m, Oct. 1909, J. STEINBACH" "C.M. Acc. 4552" "160" (holotype and two paratypes in Carnegie Museum, Pittsburg, USA, allotype and three paratypes in senior author collection).

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